DECLARATION

As one of the below named joint inventors, I declare:

that my residence, citizenship and post office address are as stated below next to my name;

that I believe I am an original, joint inventor of the subject matter that is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention or design entitled *Apparatus and Method for Protecting and Wiping a Surface*, the specification and claims of which is attached hereto;

that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above;

that the subject matter of the specification and claims attached hereto was part of my invention and was invented before the filing date of any applications listed herein for which a claim for priority is made herein;

that I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56; and

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119 or § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

US Provisional Patent Application Serial No.: 60/272,431, filed February 28, 2001

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

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